

TO THE CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN
OF THE REETH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year ended 31st December 1963.

The report is prepared on the lines laid down by the Ministry of Health.

The mid-year population is estimated by the Registrar General at 1,730, a decrease of 10 in 1962.

There were 14 live births compared with 21 in 1962. The live birth rate was 11.16, being lower than that for England and Wales which is 18.20. There were two illegitimate births.

Total deaths numbered 27 (24 in 1962) and the death rate at 11.70 is lower than that for England and Wales at 12.20. There was one infant death during the year.

The main causes of death were Heart Disease 10, Respiratory Disease 4, Vascular lesions of the Nervous System 3, and Cancer 3.

Thirteen cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year; all were measles. There were no cases of tuberculosis.

Immunisation

Immunisation of children against certain infectious diseases continued, the recommendation programme being as follows:-

3 - 6 months vaccine against diphtheria, Whooping Cough and tetanus (3 doses)

7 - 10 months - Oral (Sabin) vaccine against Poliomyelitis (3 doses) Booster dose of triple vaccine at 18 - 21 months, a further booster dose of diphtheria and tetanus vaccine at 5 and 8 years.

Vaccination against Smallpox is recommended between 1 and 2 years of age.

The water supply of the area is now the responsibility of the Northallerton and the Dales Water Board. The supplies in the area as a whole can only be described as highly unsatisfactory. Many of the samples taken during the year show evidence of contamination with faecal matter. This of course does not necessarily mean that dangerous organisms are present. The absence of any serious outbreak of disease, due to these unsatisfactory water supplies, should not blind us to the danger of such outbreaks occurring. At any time, dangerous contamination of springs might occur, with disastrous consequences. When unsatisfactory samples are found, consumers should boil or filter, through an adequate filter, their drinking water.

The Northallerton and the Dales Water Board should be pressed to provide adequate and safe water supplies at an early date. The state of the existing sewerage disposal system, and the lack of water borne sewerage in many houses also causes concern. It is to be hoped that the Council will be able to proceed with the provision of adequate sewerage facilities in the near future.

Doctor Speirs retired at the end of the year and the writer was appointed to succeed him from 1st January 1964.

I would like to express my appreciation of the help and co-operation I have received from the Public Health Inspector, whose report is attached to mine.

H.R. Morrison,

Medical Officer of Health.

REETH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District in acres	...	...	...	74,566 acres.
Resident Population Registrar General's mid-year estimate, 1963	...	...	...	1,730.
Number of inhabited houses at 1st April, 1963	...	...	...	917
Rateable value at 1st April 1963	...	...	...	£33623.
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£125
Rate in £ levied at 1st April 1963	...	...	...	8s 8d.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births.

The number of live births registered in the District during the year 1963 was 14, as against 21 in 1962. The birth rate comparisons show that the rate for the District is lower than the rest of England and Wales.

There were no still births registered during the year as against one in 1962.

Birth Rate Comparisons

Live births per 1,000 population (as adjusted by Comparability Factor supplied by the Registrar General)

		<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Still Births</u>
Reeth Rural District	1962	10.03	00.00
Reeth Rural District	1963	11.16	00.00
England and Wales,	1963	18.20	17.30

Analysis of Births

<u>Live Births:</u>		<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
			M F
Legitimate ..	..	18	6 6
Illegitimate. ..	..	3	1 1
		<u>21</u>	<u>7 7</u>

Illegitimate Live Births 14.28 per cent of total live births.

<u>Still Births:</u>		<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Legitimate		1	-
Illegitimate		-	-
		<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Deaths - Maternal Mortality

During 1963 there was no case of a woman dying through childbirth in the District.

Infantile Mortality

The number of infants under one who died during the year was 1 against NIL in 1962

Infantile Mortality Comparisons per 1,000 Live Births

Reeth Rural District, 1963	...	...	71.43
Reeth Rural District, 1962	...	...	00.00
England and Wales, 1963	...	...	20.90

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births = 83.33.
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births = 00.00
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births) = 71.43.
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) = 00.00.
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) = 00.00.

Deaths from all Causes.

During the year 1963 there were 27 deaths from all causes registered in the District, as against 24 in 1962. The death rate is lower than that for England and Wales.

Death Rate Comparison

Death rate per 1,000 population (as adjusted by Comparability Factor supplied by the Registrar General for 1963 but not for 1962)

Reeth Rural District 1963	...	...	11.70
Reeth Rural District 1962	...	...	13.79
England and Wales 1963	...v	...	12.20

Causes of all Deaths - Compared with 1962

<u>Diseases</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	
		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach		-	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms		2	-
Deaths from Cancer	5		
Diabetes.	-	1	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	7	1	3
Coronary Disease. Angina	3	4	-
Other Heart Disease.	5	4	2
Other Circulatory Disease.	1	2	-
Pneumonia	1	1	3
Gastritis. Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	-	1	-
Congenital Malformations	-	1	-
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	2	-	1
	<u>24</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>10</u>

Number of Deaths from the Seven Chief Causes

per 1,000 population

	<u>1962.</u>		<u>1963.</u>	
	No		No.	Rate
Cancer ... ..	...	5	3	1.73
Heart Disease...	...	8	10	5.77
Respiratory Disease..	...	1	4	2.31
T.B. Pulmonary..	...	-	-	
T.B. Non-Pulmonary...	...	-	-	
Other circulatory disease.	...	1	2	1.15
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System..	7		4	2.31
	<u>22</u>		<u>23</u>	<u>13.27</u>

Analysis of Infections Diseases and Comparisons with Previous Year

	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Tuberculosis	-	-
Measles	55	13

Vaccinations and Immunisations - against Smallpox, Diphtheria and Pertussis

The number of vaccinations and immunisations carried out in the District in 1963 are as follows;

	<u>Under 5 years</u>		<u>Over 5 years</u>	
	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Smallpox	4	-	-	3
Diphtheria	14	1	9	36
Pertussis	16		-	

Immunisation against Poliomyelitis

The following table shows the number of persons who have received immunisation against Poliomyelitis during 1963.

	<u>Salk Injection</u>	<u>Oral Vaccine</u>
Number of persons who have completed course.	5	36

One District Nurse/Midwife and a Part-time General Duties Nurse employed by the North Riding County Council carry out the duties for the District. The following are the number of visits made to patients during 1963 under the respective categories.

<u>Category</u>	<u>1963</u>
Domiciliary Midwifery.	181
Home Nursing	825
Health Visiting	525

Ambulance Service

This service is provided by the North Riding County Council from the Ambulance Service which has a staff of one Driver-Foreman, one Shift Leader and six Driver-Attendants.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care

A chiropodist is employed by the North Riding County Council to carry out treatment of old people.

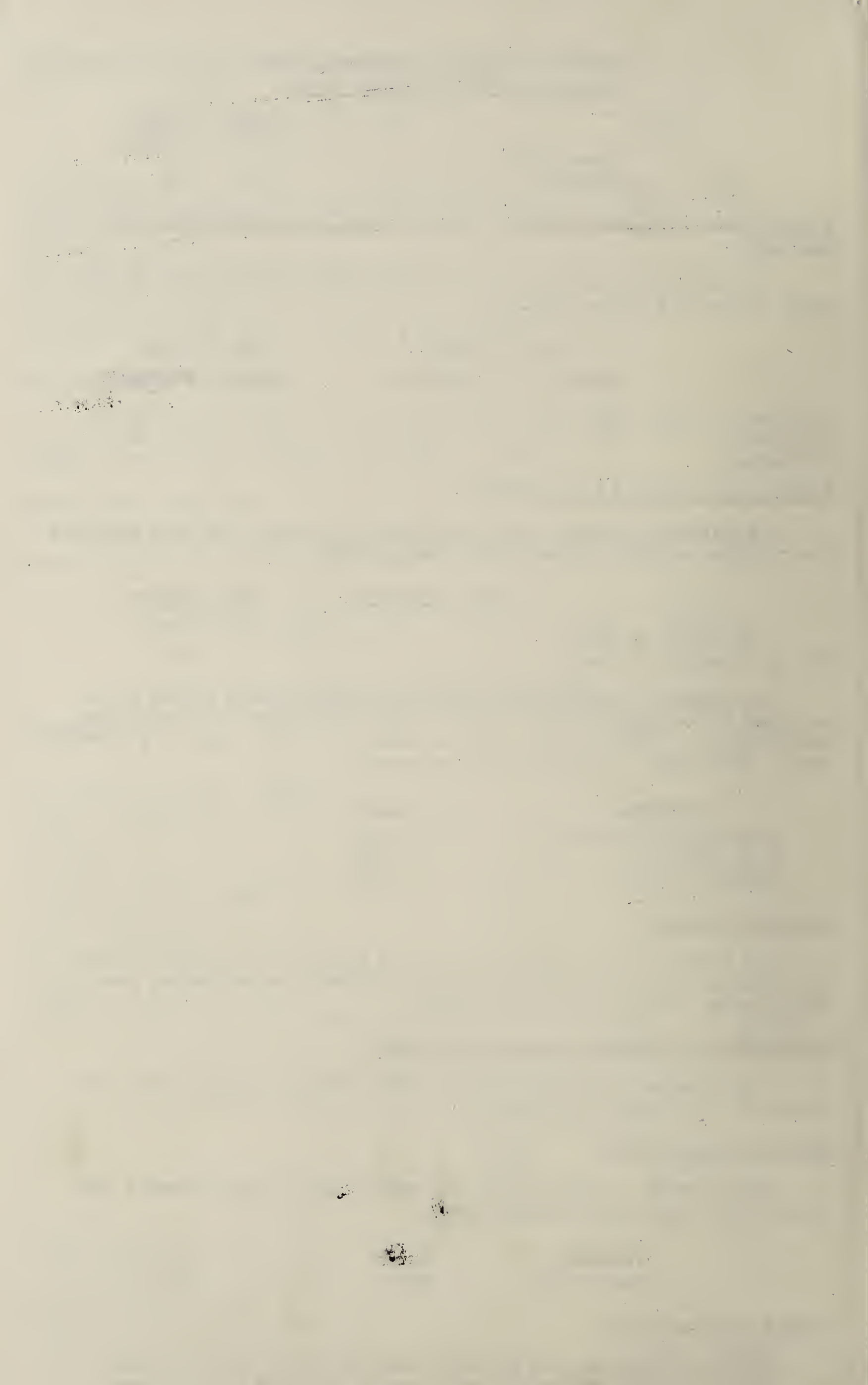
Domestic Help Service

This service is provided by the North Riding County Council and during 1963 eight cases received help

<u>Category</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Chronic Sick	3180

Infant Welfare Centre

There is a clinic held at Reeth once per month and is attended by the District Medical Officer as well as the District Nurse/Midwife.



ANNUAL REPORT: 1963

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor: J.V. Metcalfe. M.R.S.H.; M.A.P.H.I.

To the Chairman and Members of the Reeth Rural District Council.

Mr Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for the year ending, 31st December 1963.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES.

At the beginning of the year during January, February and March there was serious interference with the supplies throughout the area, due to service and communication pipes to houses being frozen. Only in a few instances, where the Council mains were not affected by frosts, temporary supplies to houses were provided using polythene tubing. Even so, a great number of houses were without a piped supply for long periods. Following the frost, general shortages occurred in every village and hamlet by reason of there being very many bursts, some of those underground being difficult to locate and it was not until the end of April that all supplies were back to normal. During February it was necessary to close Reeth school for a week, the supply to the School being completely off owing to bursts to houses at the lower level.

Until adequate water supplies can be provided throughout the district, no improvement during severe frosts can be expected, the service and branch pipes being not at a sufficient depth to afford suitable protection.

Following heavy flooding during July of the Beck at Grinton, a number of the water pipes crossing the bed were broken and supplies were severely restricted for 3 weeks until the pipes were renewed.

During August, storage capacities dropped to a low level, but no serious shortages occurred.

WATER ANALYSIS (Bacteriological)

Of 12 samples taken during the year, 10 were unsatisfactory and only 2 satisfactory. As no improvements have been carried out, all supplies in the area continue to be subject to pollution by surface water.

Proposals to provide additional storage capacities at Keld and Marrick were not sanctioned by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, the Council being advised that the Water Board would be taking over in April and that any proposals must await the decisions of such Board.

SEWERAGE

Work on the Thwaite Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme commenced on October 1st and a steady progress was made in the first few weeks, but work on the site of the disposal works was held up owing to adverse weather, the fields being waterlogged. The excavation for the sewers proved difficult due to the continuous boulder rock formation.

The proposed scheme for Reeth, Fremington and Grinton has been submitted to the various authorities and awaits the inquiry into the proposals by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government before tenders can be advertised for.

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As no improvements have been carried out/the disposal works at Keld, Muker, Gunnerside, Healaugh, C.B. Yard, Grinton and Reeth, the effluents being discharged into streams continue to be classified "liquid sewage".

At Langthwaite, crude sewage is discharged direct into the Arkle Beck.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Continued difficulties have been experienced during the year in connection with the disposal of household refuse. The existing tip in Arkengarthdale is rapidly reaching capacity and in addition, the owner of the estate threatens to take out an injunction to stop the continued unauthorised tipping of refuse. In view of this situation it was necessary that an alternative site be brought into use and consequently negotiations were completed and Planning Approval obtained for a site at Tottergill Pasture in Arkengarthdale and a contract for fencing and preparation of the site was entered into, involving an expenditure of £700. Even so, the Members of the Council and myself were far from satisfied at the turn of events all attempts to obtain the approval of the National Parks Committee to a more suitable site having been unsuccessful - it was realised that the new site at Tottergill is in an exposed position at a higher level than the existing tip, exposed to high winds in as much as to make it extremely difficult to prevent loose paper being blown over the adjoining country side to the detriment of the amenities. In addition, it is a fact that for periods during winter, the tip will be inaccessible and at present, no alternative is available.

The attitude of the National Parks Committee is, I am unhappy to report, unrealistic and I make no apology for expressing this bluntly - it is my opinion that they see only the beauty of the area, the whole of which is within the National Park - fair enough up to a point, - but it seems that they shrug away the necessity that a conveniently accessible site should be made available, a site that can be used all the year round. Such a site has already been turned down, that at Stolerston, in the parish of Ellerton Abbey and in spite of the fact that the Ministry of Housing & Local Government have also turned it down, I still maintain that this is the only site that is suitable as it is already protected from winds and with further tree planting it could be contained in a manner that would raise little objection to its use. It must be stressed that over the past 14 years every endeavour has been made by myself, the members of the Council and the County Planning Officers to find a suitable alternative and one which can be developed within a reasonable expenditure in relation to the low rateable income. In regard to the latter, there is a strong feeling that the charter of the National Parks is wrong, surely a suitable means of refuse disposal can be provided out of public funds where it can be shown that there would be an excessive charge on the local ratepayers in providing a service necessary because of the area being within the National Park, the more efficient and costly means of disposal being necessary to preserve the amenities for the benefit of visitors.

With respect, I

suggest that the Minister cannot be fully aware of the problem and that a full investigation should be undertaken by one of his Inspectors, spending a few days (not just half a day) about the District, this would then present the problem in its proper perspective.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The conveniences throughout the area continue to be maintained by part time caretakers in a satisfactory manner and only small damage has occurred through vandalism.

The new conveniences at

Langthwaite were nearing completion at the end of the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Conversion of dry closets to W.C's	20
Additional W.C's	3
New drainage inspected and tested	470 yards
Tests to existing drainage systems	18
Number of houses with water carriage system	761
Number of houses with dry closets	154
Number of houses connected to Council sewers	378

COUNCIL HOUSES, REETH AND GUNNERSIDE

The houses have been well maintained and kept in good order by all tenants. Only minor items of repair have been necessary.

PRIVATE HOUSING

3 additional dwellinghouses have been provided during the year, 2 by conversions and 1 new building. A further 4 dwellings are in progress of erection.

EXISTING HOUSING

Number of houses in Clearance Areas	NIL
Unfit houses made fit after formal action	NIL
Unfit houses made fit after Informal action	12
Unfit houses occupied and subject to a Closing Order	NIL
Unfit houses closed	NIL
Unfit houses now closed and subject to an undertaking not to be used for human habitation	2

RENT ACT, 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair have been received.

CLASSIFICATION OF HOUSES

Number of houses in the district	917
Class 1 - Fit in all respects	120
Class 2 - Minor defects only	629
Class 3 - Requiring repairs and improvements	160
Class 5 - Unfit	8

HOUSE PURCHASE & HOUSING ACT

A steady rate of improvement to houses under this Act has been maintained - 5 applications for the Discretionary Grant were approved during the year, the amount of Grants to be paid, £684. On 14 Discretionary Grants approved previously and completed in the year Grants totalling, £1,792 were paid. On the Standard Grant, 18 applications were approved and on works completed the amount of Grants was £918. The works of improvement included the conversion of an existing building into a dwellinghouse the conversion of 2 large houses, into 4 separate dwellings and the provision of the following amenities, 10 Baths; 16 W.C's; 10 wash hand basins; 10 Hot Water Systems and 4 new Larders.

The class of properties on which Grants were approved were as follows:-

13 owner/occupiers and 10 tenanted houses.

INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES DURING THE YEAR

1.(a) Total number of houses inspected during the year for housing defects (Public Health or Housing Acts)

- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 122
- 2.(a) Number of houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation 38
- (b) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation NIL

3. Remedy of defects without service of formal notice

Number of houses made fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers 32

4. Statutory proceedings during the year.

- (a) Proceedings under the Housing Acts in relation to individual unfit houses NIL
- (b) Statutory proceedings under the Public Health Acts NIL
- (c) Proceedings under the Housing Acts for demolition of individual unfit houses NIL

Housing Act, 1936. Part IV - Overcrowding

There is no overcrowding within the area.

FOOD Number and Type of Food Premises in the Area

Private Slaughterhouses - 2; Retail Butchers Shops - 2; Butchers Vans retailing meat - 4; Premises registered for the preparation of cooked meats - 3; Ice Cream manufacturers (Cold Mix) - 1. Premises registered for the sale of Pre-Packed Ice Cream - 16; Bakeries - 3; Cafes - 9; General Dealers, retail food shops - 17; Retail food shops - 4; Vans retailing wet fish - 1; Youth Hostels - 2; Private Hotels - 5; Boarding Houses - 26; Licensed premises - 10;

Registered Dairies

There are no registered premises in the district, all milk retailed being from producer retailers.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The 2 private slaughterhouses conform to the requirements of the Slaughterhouses Regulations and have been maintained in good order and clean condition. Slaughtering has been carried out in a humane manner and with proper regard to hygiene. The amount of slaughtering during the year has been greatly reduced, meat having been purchased by the butchers "off the hook" at the Darlington abattoir.

Meat Inspection

	<u>Cattle; Cows; Calves; Sheep; Pigs; Horses</u>					
Number killed	1	-	-	111	21	-
Number inspected	1	-	-	111	21	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and C ₁ Bovis						
Whole carcasses condemned	-----					
Tuberculosis only whole carcasses	-----					
Part of carcase/organs	-----					
Cysticercus Bovis	-----					

Total weight involved	2 tons	16 cwt
Weight condemned	nil	

INSPECTION OF REGISTERED PREMISES

Cooked meat preparation	85
Ice Cream Manufacture	6
Ice Cream sale shops	63

All premises where food is prepared were well maintained, clean and the business carried on with regard to hygienic practice.

FOOD HYGIENE

During the year close attention has been paid in this direction with visits to Shops, Catering Establishments and Licensed premises. No educational schemes or clean food guilds are organised for the area.

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

There was no condemnation of foodstuffs throughout the district during the year and no special examination of consignments was found to be necessary.

ICE CREAM (Heat Treatment) REGULATIONS

The one registered manufacturer uses only the "cold Mix" process.

RETAIL FOOD SHOPS

All but two of the shops in the district are "family shops" and all have toilet accommodation and washing facilities easily available with hot and cold running water. The two lock-up shops have suitable facilities.

SCHOOLS

The water supplies to schools throughout the area have been maintained, with the exception of Reeth, previously reported under Water Supplies. Each school is provided with filters for drinking water provided by the Education Committee. The school meal service continues to be carried on in a hygienic manner.

RODENT CONTROL

For the purposes of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, the following inspections were carried out:-

Council properties (sewage works, refuse tips) 59; Dwellinghouses, 164; Other properties 6; Agricultural 67; The foregoing figures include when visits were also made for some other purpose.

No "Major" infestations were found; 17 "minor" infestations were dealt with by Warfarin treatments.

FACTORIES

Number of premises on register	7
Number of inspections	48

CARAVAN & CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

The number of sites continues to be limited due to Planning Control and one of the larger sites, that at Usher Gap, Muker has been discontinued.

Number of sites	14
Number of caravans	36
Number of inspections	50

CAMPING

8 camping sites used during the year were properly organised and run in a proper manner.

Number of visits. 32.

NUISANCES

Inspections for nuisances only	8
Number of nuisances found	8
Number needing abatement	8
Number abated by informal action	8

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Drainage works in progress 71; Complaints investigated 22; Housing Improvement works in progress 140; Housing repair works in progress 28; Visits to learn if works done 34; Licensed premises 62; Catering establishments 60; Food Hygiene Regulations 126; Schools, 16; Bakeries 28; Refuse Tips 48; Sewerage works 44; Water undertakings 60; Miscellaneous, 120.

CONCLUSION.

By reason of his retirement, it is with regret that I have for the last time to record my thanks and appreciation for all the help and guidance which Dr. Speirs has so readily given me and I sincerely hope that he will be able to continue in good health, so as to enjoy his well earned retirement.

It also gives me pleasure in taking this opportunity of recording my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council and to the Clerk Malcolm E. Scott, for the courtesy and assistance extended to me during the year. My thanks also to the two Council employees on the Refuse Collection and Disposal service, Messrs. J.A. Barningham and J.N. Whitehead for carrying out their duties in a conscientious manner, even in adverse weather conditions.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen.

your obedient servant.

(signed) J.V. Metcalfe.

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor